

EXAM MENU

Reading:	Paper 1, part 2
Listening:	Paper 4, part 4
Use of English:	Paper 3, parts 2 and 4
Speaking:	Paper 5, part 3
Writing:	Paper 2, part 2

Getting started

- 1 The words below are hidden in the box. They may be placed vertically, horizontally, diagonally, forwards or backwards. See how many you can find.

broadcast
exchange
instil
reveal

clarify
explain
knowledge
send

communicate
impart
message
share

convey
information
publish
transmit



C	O	M	M	U	N	I	C	A	T	E	N
R	O	T	H	I	N	N	E	E	X	X	I
C	U	N	O	T	P	F	E	D	H	C	S
L	A	E	V	E	R	O	W	I	E	H	A
A	M	X	P	E	E	R	P	X	A	A	D
R	K	P	U	M	Y	M	H	R	Z	N	C
I	Q	L	J	R	L	A	E	W	E	G	B
F	D	A	N	T	E	T	R	E	X	E	O
Y	A	I	S	O	P	I	N	S	T	I	L
O	W	N	Y	T	S	O	U	I	R	Z	R
E	F	I	T	D	K	N	M	C	A	J	F
D	M	Q	N	V	A	E	B	I	N	E	T
J	E	E	O	W	P	I	A	L	S	U	S
T	S	A	C	D	A	O	R	B	M	T	A
R	S	S	T	R	E	M	Y	U	I	K	M
A	A	H	S	I	L	B	U	P	T	T	N
P	G	R	Y	E	A	X	N	G	N	U	T
M	E	K	N	O	W	L	E	D	G	E	U
I	R	A	W	P	N	O	P	L	E	R	V

- 2 Find the word hidden in the box which means to make a fact or event widely known to the public.

Reading: predicting information

SPOTLIGHT EXAM GUIDANCE

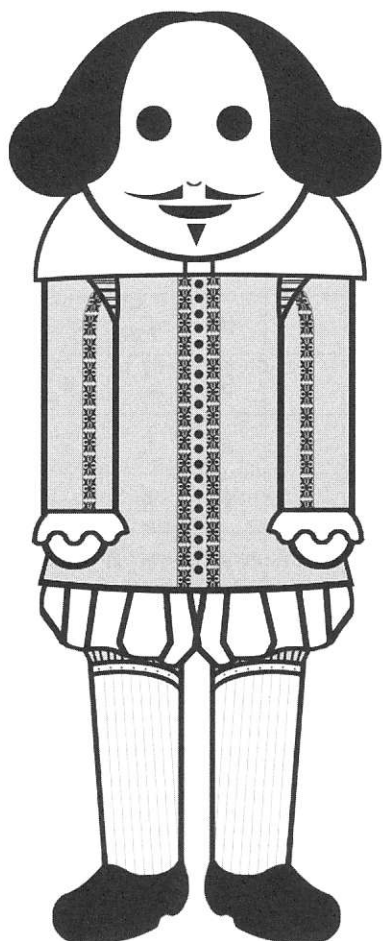
PAPER 1, PART 2 Predicting information

Read the text as a whole to get an idea of how the theme develops before attempting the task. Try to predict what kind of information will follow a paragraph. For example, do you expect to see an example of a point made, a further supporting point, or perhaps an opposing argument?

Tips

- Pay careful attention to names mentioned before the gap.
- Look at the paragraph which follows the gap. Is the same person speaking, or has this changed?
- Think about what information the missing paragraph needs to include to enable the paragraphs to flow.

- 1 PAPER 1, PART 2 Choose from paragraphs (A–G) the one which best fits each gap in the text (1–6). There is one extra paragraph which you do not need to use.



English as she will be spoke

On 23 September 1938, engineers from the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company sank a time capsule deep into the ground at Flushing Meadows Park in New York City, venue of the 1939 World's Fair. Among other artefacts, the capsule contained a printed 'key to English' that described the words, sounds, and grammar of twentieth-century American English to help its discoverers, 5,000 years in the future, understand a language that presumably would be as foreign to them as Hittite is to us.

1 [...]

- 10 Will it be like this: 'I punya manglish iz wely chekai wan lah, singlish lagi terok, i tok chinglish beter'?¹

Or this: 'Our Father, who comes to us from above, your name is holy'?²

Or this: 'It musve ben some girt jynt thing hy hy up and with a shyning and a flashing to it time back way back when they had boats in the air and all the res of it'?³

2 [...]

- Historical trends are a useful guide to the future. One common prediction is that Modern English is following the same path as classical Latin – a global language belonging to a powerful empire which evolved gradually, broke apart and was eventually buried by its progeny. According to language historians, as early as AD 300 the Latin of the masses had a vocabulary, pronunciation, and grammar largely distinct from the elite's classical Latin. Over the next 500 years this 'vulgar' Latin split into increasingly distinct regional dialects, and by AD 800 it had evolved into a family of mutually unintelligible languages – the forerunners of today's Italian, Spanish, French and other Romance languages.

3 [...]

- What seems certain is that new words will form, meanings will migrate, and obsolete words will die out. These are the facts of life for any language. Vocabulary changes not so much because new words are invented but because words take new meanings and are combined in new ways. For this reason, 'most likely the English of 2300 will be harder for us to understand than the English of 1700,' says Edwin

Duncan, a historian of English at Towson University in Maryland. He points out that Shakespeare knew the words 'hot', 'dog', 'ice' and 'cream', but he wouldn't know what we mean by 'hot dog' and 'ice cream'.

4 [...]

The momentum of this shift is still being felt. Marckwardt predicted that some vowels of English will continue to evolve. The word 'home' – pronounced 'heim' in Germanic, 'hahm' in Old English and 'hawm' in Middle English – might some day be 'hoom'. Some vowels, however, appear immutable: those in 'ship', 'bet', 'ox' and 'full' have remained the same for centuries.

5 [...]

His predictions for grammar were more radical. His main prediction was that more and more English words would lose their inflections, in keeping with long-term trends. Old English had a rich system of inflections for conjugating words (for example sing, sang, sung) and marking nouns with inflections to indicate such things as possessive, indirect objects, or the objects of a preposition. Then, about 900 years ago, the system began to collapse, mainly because words borrowed from Latin, French, and Norse had stress on their first syllables, which de-emphasised the final syllables where the inflections were. Norse speakers also introduced new endings. English began its life as a language like Latin, where one word mattered little because inflections kept meaning and syntax straight, but ever since 1066 it has been on a slow path to becoming a language like Chinese, where word order is fixed because the language has no inflections at all.

6 [...]

Any changes that do occur to our language will probably be quite slow. Last October, 'Nature' published a paper about the pace at which irregular English verbs such as 'run/ran' regularise by acquiring '-ed' to mark them as past tense. This has been happening gradually over the past 1200 years as modern English evolved from its Germanic roots. As one example, what we know as 'helped' was 'holp' in Middle English.

1 Malaysian English: 'I can't speak Malaysian or Singaporean English very well, but I speak Chinese English better.'

2 Globish, developed by Jean Paul Nerriere

3 From 'Riddley Walker' by Russell Hoban, set in a post-apocalyptic future England.

A Predicting future vocabulary is difficult, but how will the language be pronounced? How will words be put together, and what will be the shape of sentences? Nearly fifty years ago, Albert Marckwardt, a linguist at the University of Michigan, predicted some characteristics of the English to come based on where it had been. Take, for instance, the shifting sands of English vowels. From around the twelfth century until the sixteenth century, English underwent the 'great vowel shift'. This shortened some vowels – like 'ee' to 'aye' as in 'mice' – and pushed others to the front of the mouth, for example the Middle English vowel pronounced 'oh', which became 'oo' as in 'boot'.

B It's a safe bet that the discoverers of the Westinghouse time capsule will need to use Harrington's key, because 5,000 years is a long time in the life of any language. Only 1,600 years ago, the people who spoke the languages that would form the core of English had not yet migrated to England. A thousand years ago, English was a language so different from our own you'd have to learn it as a foreign language; very few people can understand 'Beowulf' in its original Old English. The fourteenth-century Middle English of Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* needs to be updated to make it fully intelligible. Even the unmistakably modern English of Shakespeare can be hard to understand, and that's only 400 years old.

C The fate of the few remaining inflections (including the plural -s, the possessive -'s, the past tense -ed and -ing on verbs) is up in the air. Some show signs of changing. Words like 'messier' and 'messiest' are giving way to 'more ...' and 'most messy', while the possessive is being replaced by phrases with 'of'. English speakers used to be able to say 'our's one'; now we say 'one of ours'. The verbal inflections (-ed and -ing, among others) seem more stable. 'I really think these won't drop,' says Geoff Pullum, a linguist at the University of Edinburgh, UK, and co-author of 'The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language'. 'Not in hundreds of years.'

D The author of the document, John Harrington of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington DC, presumed that modern English would be radically changed by the year 6939. But how? Is it possible to say what English will be like 5,000 years from now, or even 500?

E Compared to vowels, English consonants have always been fairly stable. There have been some notable changes – the 'k' in 'knife' was once pronounced, 'nature' was 'natoor', 'special' was 'spe-see-al', and there have also been some shifts in how people say 'r' and 'l'. But Marckwardt was confident that English consonants would stay the same.

F Of the 177 verbs Lieberman tracked, seventy-nine have now regularised. So what is to become of the remaining ninety-eight? They are not going to follow suit any time soon. Lieberman predicts that only 10 more will become regular by 2500. The next candidate is 'wed', whose past tense ('wed') is already giving way to 'wedded'.

G But history can only take us so far. The worldwide success of English, which puts it on many more lips and tongues than are found in its native-speaking homelands, and the development of global communications mean that the forces acting on the language are unlike anything seen in the past. Fortunately, recent research into language evolution can help.